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P 181555Z FEB 94

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5772

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 05 KIGALI 00776

PARIS FOR PERLOW

BRUSSELS FOR DUBROW

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PGOV, RW

SUBJECT: HESITANT STEPS TOWARDS A GOVERNMENT

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- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. SUMMARY: I OFFER BELOW A LONG SUMMATION OF STEPS TAKEN THIS WEEK TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERIM INSTITUTIONS, THUS TO SET THE STAGE FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON FURTHER INITIATIVES. UN-BROKERED DISCUSSIONS, POINTED TOWARDS INSTALLATION BROKE DOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 18 FEB 2015
DATE/CASE ID: 04 NOV 2011 201005065

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IN ACRIMONY OVER THE WEEKEND. AFTER PARTIES COOLED OFF, WESTERN OBSERVERS BEGAN PICKING UP THE PIECES. I INVITED PARTY CHIEFS TO AN INFORMAL BREAKFAST. WESTERN COM'S MET WITH FACILITATOR TAMBWE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL (SRSG) BOOH BOOH FOR AN ASSESSMENT, THEN TALKED WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. THE FRONT AND PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE INVITED US TO AN ALL PARTIES MEETING THE NEXT MORNING BUT, WHEN MRND AND ANTI-RPF FACTIONS DID NOT SHOW UP, OBSERVERS BOWED OUT. PARTIES VENTED FEELINGS IN USEFUL CLOSED SESSION AFTERNOON 2/16. THE COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS

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/HAVE OPENED UP DIALOGUE ON IMPORTANT ISSUES AND BROUGHT ALL PARTIES CLOSER TO COMPROMISE. END SUMMARY.

SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

3. UN-BROKERED TALKS FAILED OVER THE WEEKEND TO BRING PARTIES TO AGREEMENT ON SETTING UP TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. ON MONDAY 2/14, POLITICIANS NURSED CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 00776 01 OF 05 181610Z EGOS BRUISED IN ACRIMONIOUS SUNDAY NIGHT DEBATE AND AVIDLY FOLLOWED REPORTS ON PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE TWAGIRAMUNGU'S COURT CASE (REF A). BELIEVING IT TIME FOR SOME CONFIDENCE BUILDING, I INVITED PARTY LEADERS TO BREAKFAST 2/15 TO HEAR VISITING CLERGYMAN MICHAEL CASSIDY DISCUSS HIS WORK IN RECONCILIATION IN SOUTH AFRICA. LEADERS OF ALL MAJOR PARTIES AND FACTIONS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION. DR. CASSIDY FRANKLY DETAILED CURRENT DIVISIONS IN SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICS AND DESCRIBED SOME SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO BRING LEADERS FROM POLITICALLY-DIVERGENT GROUPS TOGETHER. HE POINTEDLY AVOIDED REFERENCE TO RWANDAN PROBLEMS EXCEPT TO URGE THAT LEADERS KEEP THEIR "EYES ON THE PRIZE" OF THE NATION'S GOOD. SOME PARTY LEADERS MET PATRIOTIC FRONT'S MAZIMPAKA AND BIZIMUNGU FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THEIR ARRIVAL IN KIGALI. LIBERAL PARTY LEADERS MUGENZI AND LANDO STAYED FOR A LONG CONVERSATION ON THE LAWN AFTER OTHER GUESTS HAD LEFT. AS THEY DEPARTED, RPF LEADERS ASKED IF I COULD ARRANGE A MEETING WITH THE WESTERN OBSERVERS.

REVIEW OF WEEKEND DISCUSSIONS

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4. AT THE REQUEST OF WESTERN OBSERVERS, SRSG BOOH BOOH AND TANZANIAN FACILITATOR TAMBWE LATER MORNING 2/15 TOOK US THROUGH THE BYWAYS OF WEEKEND MEETINGS. IT SEEMS THAT, AFTER SOME HESITATION, THE MRND HAD PRESENTED BOOH BOOH WITH A REVISED EDITION OF "THEIR GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT" IN THE FORM OF A "SOLEMN DECLARATION" WHICH MRND WANTED ALL PARTIES TO SIGN BEFORE INSTALLATION OF THE GOVERNMENT. MUCH OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DECLARATION WAS A REAFFIRMATION OF THE ARUSHA
PRINCIPLES. IT ALSO CONTAINED PROVISIONS FOR GENERAL
AMNESTY AND AN AGREEMENT THAT DECISIONS REGARDING
TERRITORIAL AND CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION CONSTITUTE
MATTERS OF "NATIONAL SECURITY" REQUIRING CONSENSUS IN
GOVERNMENT COUNCIL. BOOH BOOH REPORTED THAT, IN HIS
SATURDAY 2/12 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA, THE
PRESIDENT, WHILE NOT DEMANDING SPECIFICS ON AMNESTY,
SEEMED PARTICULARLY ATTACHED TO THE IDEA OF THIS

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P 181555Z FEB 94 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5773 UNCLASSIFIED

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 05 KIGALI 00776

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 00776 02 OF 05 181612Z DECLARATION. BOOH BOOH FELT THAT IF THE DECLARATION WERE ACCEPTED, THE PRESIDENT WOULD IN TURN ACCEDE TO INSTALLATION OF THE INSTITUTIONS, EVEN WITHOUT THE LIBERAL PARTY, SHOULD IT NOT BE ABLE TO PRESENT A COMMON LIST OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATES.

- 5. AT MRND'S REQUEST, BOOH BOOH PRESENTED THE DOCUMENT TO THE RPF, AND CALLED A MEETING FOR 3:00 P.M. ON SUNDAY 2/13 TO NEGOTIATE THE DECLARATION AND REVIEW MODALITIES FOR AN INSTALLATION CEREMONY ON MONDAY 2/14. THE RPF ROUSTED BOOH BOOH OUT SUNDAY MORNING TO INFORM HIM THEY SAW NO NEED FOR A MEETING, SINCE, IN THEIR VIEW, PARTIES HAD ALREADY AGREED TO INSTALL THE GOVERNMENT ON MONDAY. LATER THAT MORNING, BOOH BOOH RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE PRIME MINISTER INSISTING THAT HE MEET WITH HER AND THE RPF TO ADDRESS THE MATTER. BOOH BOOH DEMURRED, INSISTING THAT ALL PARTIES COME TO 3:00 P.M. MEETING AS CONVENED. HE FINALLY, RELUCTANTLY, AGREED TO A DELAY UNTIL 5:00 P.M.
- 6. HOWEVER, AT THE 5:00 P.M. MEETING, THE MRND AND PL FACTIONS WERE NOT PRESENT, CLAIMING THEY HAD BEEN

MISINFORMED AS TO TIME AND VENUE. BOOH BOOH TOLD RWANDAN LEADERS IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT HE WOULD NO LONGER BE PULLED AROUND BY THEIR VACILATING DEMANDS; RATHER, THEY SHOULD WORK OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES ON THE DECLARATION AND WITHIN THE PARTIES, THEN LET HIM KNOW. IN FURTHER COMMENTARY ON THE WEEKEND EVENTS, AMBASSADOR TAMBWE NOTED THAT RWANDAN POLITICAL LEADERS WERE NOW ATTACKING BOOH CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 00776 02 OF 05 181612Z BOOH AND VARIOUS AMBASSADORS FOR SUPPOSED FAVORITISM TOWARDS ONE SIDE OR ANOTHER IN THE CURRENT DEBATE.

7. IN A MEETING 2/14 WITH PRIME MINISTERDESIGNATE, BOOH BOOH URGED SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF
THE DECLARATION, NOTING HOW DEMANDS FOR SUCH A
GUARANTEE FROM HAITIAN MILITARY HAD BEEN REJECTED
THUS STALLING DEMOCRATIZATION WITHIN THAT COUNTRY.
THE PRIME MINISTER AGREED TO DISCUSS MRND'S CONCERNS
WITH THEM ON 2/15. I INFORMED BOOH BOOH THAT PARTY
LEADERS HAD ALL BEEN TOGETHER AT MY HOUSE THAT
MORNING; THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THE PRIME MINISTER
COULD NOT HAVE WORKED OUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN ALL
PARTIES' MEETING. WE LEARNED LATER THE PRIME
MINISTER-DESIGNATE CONVENED A MEETING OF HIS
POLITICAL ALLIES BUT DID NOT MEET WITH MRND.

RPF'S POSITION

8. EVEN THOUGH THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR COULD NOT ATTEND, THE RPF INSISTED ON SEEING WESTERN OBSERVERS AT 4:00 P.M. 2/15. THEY REITERATED THEIR BELIEF THAT THE "SOLEMN DECLARATION" MIGHT PORTRAY THE TRUE CONCERNS OF THE PRESIDENT AND MRND. THEY WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS THESE CONCERNS IF THEY DID NOT CONTRAVENE THE PROVISIONS OF THE PEACE ACCORD AND CODE OF ETHICS, WHICH PARTIES HAD ALREADY SIGNED, AND, IF THE MRND WOULD GIVE ASSURANCES THAT ALL OTHER MATTERS WOULD BE PUT ASIDE. RPF ALSO WANTED TO INFORM OBSERVERS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE CONVENING A MEETING OF ALL PARTIES THE NEXT MORNING CONFIDENTIAL

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I ASKED IF THE UN WOULD BE PRESENT. MAZIMPAKA RESPONDED THAT BOOH BOOH ON SUNDAY NIGHT HAD BEEN

THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THAT THE UN AT LEAST BE INVITED AND QUERIED WHETHER ALL PARTIES AND FACTIONS WOULD BE REPRESENTED. RPF SAID THEY HAD ALL BEEN INVITED AND SHOULD BE THERE. THE RPF WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT AS TO

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 00776 03 OF 05 181614Z POSITIONS THEY MIGHT TAKE REGARDING AMNESTY OR OTHER PROVISIONS IN THE "DECLARATION," SAYING THEY WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT DETERMINATION OF WHETHER THE "DECLARATION" WAS THE ONLY ISSUE AT STAKE. THAT THE MRND COULD HARDLY ANSWER FOR OTHER PARTIES ON OUTSTANDING DISPUTES IN THEIR RANKS, BUT THE RPF WOULD NOT FURTHER ELABORATE ON THESE INTRA-PARTY DISPUTES.

10. COMMENT: IN CONVERSATION TWO DAYS EARLIER, I LEARNED THAT THE RPF HAD INFORMED NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) THAT THEY STILL FIRMLY SUPPORTED THE ORIGINAL ELECTED "LANDO" LIST FOR THE LIBERAL PARTY AND WOULD NEVER ACCEPT A COMPROMISE ON THAT PRINCIPLE. THIS IS CONTRARY TO RPF ASSURANCES TO DAS BUSHNELL IN WASHINGTON AND TO THE WESTERN OBSERVERS ON 2/8 (REFS B AND C). SINCE A SINGLE PL LIST HAS NOT YET EMERGED, WE CANNOT TEST THE RPF'S FINAL POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. END COMMENT.

PRIME MINISTER'S INITIATIVE

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I ALSO

CALLED THE PRIME MINISTER TO INSIST THAT THE UN BE PRESENT AND TALKED TO THE MRND TO MAKE SURE THEY KNEW OBSERVERS WERE TO BE AT THE MEETING.

12. WHAT THE MORNING BROUGHT WAS A GATHERING OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S ALLIES. THERE WERE NO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MDR, OTHER THAN THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS, NOR OF MRND; PL MUGENZI WAS ABSENT. ALTHOUGH OBSERVERS HAD REQUESTED NO MEDIA COVERAGE SO PARTIES COULD GET RIGHT TO BUSINESS, A TV CREW SHOWED WHEN PARTY LEADERS CALLED FOR A DECLARATION CONDEMNING OTHERS FOR NOT BEING THERE, RPF MAZIMPAKA SAID THE PURPOSE WAS TO MEET WITH AND HEAR OUT THE MRND, NOT CONFRONT THEM WITH PUBLIC STATEMENTS. I QUICKLY SUPPORTED MAZIMPAKA'S POSITION, SAYING THAT IT WAS TIME FOR PEOPLE TO MEET AND DISCUSS ISSUES, NOT MAKE DECLARATIONS. I THEN RECOMMENDED AN ARUSHA FORMULA IN WHICH RWANDANS WOULD MEET TOGETHER TO MULL OVER ISSUES AND THEN CALL ON OBSERVERS AS THEY MIGHT HAVE NEED OF THEIR PRESENCE. I UNDERSCORED THE OBSERVERS' WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT ANY DISCUSSIONS THAT INCLUDED ALL PARTIES.

COULD THE PRESIDENT TURN IT AROUND?

13. IN A LONG CONVERSATION LATER THAT MORNING, DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENTIAL CABINET RUHIGIRA TOLD ME, WITH REGARD TO THE "SOLEMN DECLTION," THAT ALL THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MRND WANTED WAS SOME ASSURANCES THAT THE ARUSHA GAME
WOULD BE PLAYED STRAIGHT AND A GENERAL AMNESTY TO
CLEAR RECORDS ON THOSE WHO MIGHT SERVE IN TRANSITION
INSTITUTIONS WHILE STILL UNDER CRIMINAL PENALTY. HE
WAS NOT SURE WHERE THINGS STOOD ON THE PL
NEGOTIATIONS, BUT BELIEVED DIVISIONS WITHIN THE MDR
TO BE SERIOUS AND FUNDAMENTAL. I NOTED THAT THE
IMPASSE APPEARED MUCH AS IT DID A MONTH AGO, WITH THE
NEW ADDITION OF MRND'S REQUEST FOR A SOLEMN

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P 181555Z FEB 94

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5775

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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DECLARATION. THE PRESIDENT'S SUGGESTION OF THE
BISHOP'S SOLUTION AS A COMPROMISE POSITION WAS THE
SAME SUGGESTION HE HAD MADE AT MY CREDENTIALS
PRESENTATION ON JANUARY B. IF THE PRESIDENT HAD NOT
MOVED IN MONTH'S TIME, NEITHER HAD THE OTHER SIDES.
MEANWHILE THE CLOCK WAS TICKING.

14. EVEN THOUGH I RECOGNIZED THE SERIOUSNESS OF ISSUES AT STAKE, I ARGUED THAT RWANDANS DID NOT HAVE THE LUXURY OF TIME TO WORK OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES. RWANDA HAD OVER PAST 30 YEARS GAINED A LARGE DEGREE OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION FOR ITS SOLID RECORD OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FISCAL PROBITY, MODERATION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, AND TRANSITION TO POLITICAL PLURALISM. BUT THE RWANDAN POLITICAL ELITE WAS RAPIDLY WASTING THAT INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT ON THEIR OWN PERSONAL INTERESTS. I INFORMED THE CABINET DIRECTOR THAT I WOULD THAT AFTERNOON HAVE TO TELL UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE THAT WE COULD NOT SUBTANTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE ROUNDTABLE IF THERE WERE NOT A GOVERNMENT IN PLACE. THE PRESIDENT NEEDED TO TAKE COURAGEOUS STEPS TO MOVE THIS SITUATION

FORWARD.		 <u> </u>	
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FURTHER MEETINGS

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15. POLITICAL PARTIES DID FINALLY MEET IN CLOSED SESSION AFTERNOON 2/16. PM-DESIGNATE TWAGIRAMUNGU, BRIEFING OBSERVERS 2/17, REPORTED THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD TORN APART MRND'S PRESENTATION OF THE "DECLARATION" WHILE ATTEMPTING TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ALL MRND'S CONCERNS HAD BEEN COVERED IN THE ARUSHA TALKS. OTHER PARTIES, HOWEVER, FOUND SOME VALIDITY IN THE DOCUMENT'S MAIN POINTS: RESPECT FOR TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS, POLITICAL NEUTRALITY OF THE ADMINISTRATION, AND THE NEED FOR GENERAL AMNESTY.

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DISCUSSION THEN REVERTED TO PROBLEMS BEHIND THESE CONCERNS. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT POLITICIANS MUST OVERCOME THE ATMOSPHERE OF DISTRUST THAT PERMEATS THE CURRENT POLITICAL CULTURE IN KIGALI. THE MEETING ENDED WITH AN ATTEMPT TO SET A DATE FOR INSTALLATION OF INSTITUTIONS. PRESIDENT'S DIRECTOR OF CABINET, RUHIGIRA, HELD OFF ALL CONTENDERS FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF INSISTING THAT DISPUTES WITHIN PARTIES HAD TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE A DATE COULD BE ESTABLISHED. AN ALL PARTIES' MEETING 2/18 IS TO

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DISCUSS INTRA-PARTY ISSUES.							
16. IN A MEETING WITH OBSERVERS 2/18, SRSG BOOH BOOH REPORTED THAT, IN SPITE OF CONFRONTATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS, LIBERAL PARTY MUGENZI AND LANDO WERE AGAIN MEETING WITH THE TANZANIAN FACILITATOR TO WORK OUT A DEAL.							
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PAGE 04 KIGALI 00776 04 OF 05 181616Z HE URGED OBSERVERS TO DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO PRESSURE PARTIES TOWARD A SOLUTION.							
COMMENT							

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IMPORTANTLY, PARTIES HAVE NOW CONFRONTED FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES OF DISTRUST AND ENMITY THAT KEEP THEM FROM COMPROMISE AND BLOCK INSTALLATION OF TRANSITIONAL INSTITUTIONS. THE PACE OF CONTACT IN FORMAL MEETINGS AND CORRIDORS HAS ACCELERATED. WE MIGHT BE LOOKING AT THE FINAL STEPS IN THIS JOURNEY TOWARD A TRANSITION REGIME. HOPEFULLY, THE VISIT OF BELGIUM'S FOREIGN MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COOOPERATION WILL

PUSH ALL PARTIES TOWARD A NEW POLITICAL LIFE

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TOGETHER. RAWSON